



Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Boulevard
Indianapolis, IN 46278

November 20, 2002

INDIANA BULLETIN NO. IN 230-3-2

SUBJECT: EOP - National Veteran's Day

Purpose: To provide general information about Veterans of Military Service

Expiration Date: September 30, 2003

Veteran's Day began with a ceremony in 1921 to honor the Unknown Soldier. The memorial gestures took place on November 11, giving universal recognition to the celebrated ending of WW I hostilities at 11 a.m., on November 11, 1918 – the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. This day became known as Armistice Day. In 1954, President Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming November 11th as Veteran's Day.

November 11th has come and gone, as only one day in the year when those who have fought and died for the freedoms which many take for granted today. Only one day of the 365 is observed, yet it is an everyday occurrence for our active service men and women stationed everywhere on the globe, who may at anytime have to lay down their lives for our freedoms.

“It is the soldier, not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press; It is the soldier, not the poet who has given us freedom of speech; It is the soldier not the campus organizer, who has given us the freedom to demonstrate; It is the soldier who salutes the flag, serves beneath the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag.”

Several activities were held all over the U.S., many local events involving local, state and federal government agencies, groups, organizations, and many, many of our schools, added to the list of those recognizing the sacrifices given by our armed forces everywhere, and in every war.

“Freedom is not free”, a poem by Major Kelly Strong, sums it up in the final verse, “ I thought of the children, of the mothers and the wives. Of fathers, sons and husbands with interrupted lives. I thought about a graveyard at the bottom of the sea, of the unmarked graves in Arlington. No, freedom is not free.”

If you have any questions about Veteran's programs in NRCS or would like additional information, please contact Darrell Lambert at (260) 824-1930, ext 3, or email at darrell.lambert@in.usda.gov.

/s/

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State Conservationist

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